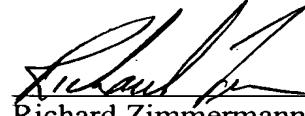


**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT**  
**AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Randy J. Hall et al.	)	<b><u>CERTIFICATE OF MAILING</u></b>
	)	<b><u>UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.08</u></b>
Serial No.: n/a	)	I hereby certify that this paper and the
<b><u>Continuation of:</u></b> 10/144,976	)	documents referred to as enclosed
<b><u>Filed:</u></b> May 14, 2002	)	therewith are being deposited with the
Title: Replaceable Valve Seat Ring	)	United States Postal Service on <b>March 2,</b>
with Enhanced Flow Design	)	<b>2004</b> , in an envelope addressed to Mail
Parent Case Group Art Unit: 3753	)	Stop: Patent Application, Commissioner
Examiner: Mr. George Walton	)	for Patents, P. O Box 1450, Alexandria,
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Richard Zimmermann

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT TO CONTINUATION APPLICATION FILED  
UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.53(B)**

Mail Stop: Patent Application  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This paper is submitted as a preliminary amendment to a continuation application filed herewith and claiming priority from co-pending U.S. Patent Application S.N. 10/144,976, set to issue today, March 2, 2004. This paper is submitted in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.53(b). Entry of the following amendments is respectfully requested prior to consideration of the above identified continuation application.

**A Listing of the Claims** begins at page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** in support of the amendments begin at page 7 of this paper.